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## **Governor's Office of Economic Development Engages with California CEOs During Ernst & Young Growth Forum 2010**

*State Gathers Input from Business Leaders to Help Improve Business Climate*

SACRAMENTO, CA – In an ongoing effort to listen and act on the issues that businesses and companies see as obstacles to growth and job creation in the state of California, Governor's Office of Economic Development (GoED) Director Joel Ayala today attended Ernst & Young's Strategic Growth Forum 2010 in Palm Springs, California where he encouraged those in attendance to think of GoED as a partner.

"California is a state with great economic potential but there are issues that we must resolve to help those who want to start, expand or keep their businesses in the state," said GoED Director Ayala. "Events like the one Ernst & Young is holding in California afford the state an opportunity to listen to the concerns of the business community and act to bring about positive economic change."

The Strategic Growth Forum, the largest gathering of entrepreneurs in America, brings together top CEOs and senior executives, as well as venture capital, private equity and corporate development investors. The event provides information to attendees on topics ranging from preparing for a strategic transaction to strategies for company growth.

Following the creation of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, a concerted effort has been made to connect with the business community and economic development stakeholders to help create a better business climate in the state. Whether providing direct assistance or guidance, GoED is committed to the individual success of its clients.

"We are very pleased to host Joel Ayala, Director of the Governor's Office of Economic Development, at our 2010 Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum," said Bryan Pearce, Americas Director of the Ernst & Young Entrepreneur Of The Year program. "We believe fostering cross-sector dialogue between entrepreneurs, market-leading business, and government is vital to our economic strength."

The Ernst & Young Strategic Growth Forum will culminate with the group's national Entrepreneur Of The Year Awards program. For more information on the program and the California entrepreneurs who are finalists for the national award, please visit: <http://www.ey.com/US/en/About-us/Entrepreneur-Of-The-Year/Article>.

GoED will meet with some of the award recipients during the conference to figure out how the state can provide better service to entrepreneurs, small business, companies and others.



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*The Governor's Office of Economic Development (GoED) was launched by Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger to help stimulate and facilitate economic growth across the state. GoEd serves as a one-stop shop for business needs and can offer assistance, resources, and other tools to assist with the creation, expansion and retention of businesses. GoED's mission is to make it easier to do business in the state.*

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